

Application No.: 10/731,463
Preliminary Amendment
Filed February 09, 2004

Docket No.: NBI-105CN

REMARKS

The presentation of the newly added claims should in no way be construed as an acquiescence to any of the rejections or objections contained in any previous office actions received in related applications. It is respectfully submitted the rejections or objections issued in any related applications do not pertain to the newly added claims. Furthermore, the presentation of the newly added claims is not related to any issues of patentability. The present Listing of Claims is presented solely to expedite prosecution of this patent application and to direct claims to some particular embodiments. Applicants reserve the option to prosecute the same or similar claims as those originally filed in the instant application or any subsequent application.

Support for the new claims presented herein may be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter has been added. The amendments pertain to correction of obvious typographical errors, *e.g.*, the superfluous closing parenthesis after "CF₃" in claim 48. The amendments also integrate claim element definitions, *e.g.*, the meaning of "Z" in claim 25. In accordance with Office practice, the claims have been amended so that they no longer refer to the chemical compounds disclosed in the Tables of the Specification, and the new claims are drawn to this subject matter.

Applicant's representatives believes that no fees, except for the fee for excess claims, are tied to entering these amended claims. However, if any such fees are required, then the Commissioner should charge them to Deposit Account No. 12-0080, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

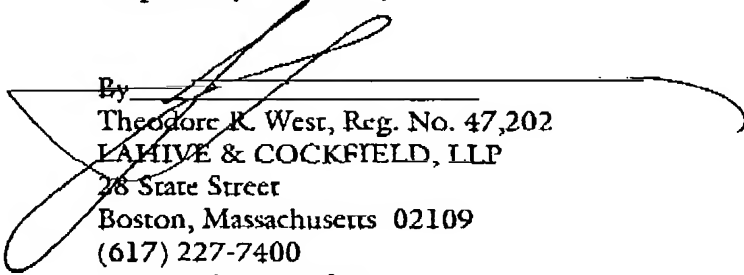
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Entry of the amended claims, favorable consideration, and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited. If there are any issues or Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with the Applicants' representative would be helpful in expediting prosecution of this application, then Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 9, 2004

By 
Theodore R. West, Reg. No. 47,202
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP
28 State Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02109
(617) 227-7400
(617) 742-4214 (Fax)
Agent For Applicant